FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ECLA MEETING OPENS IN MEXICO CITY 19 JAN

FL211522 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0422 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 19 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The participants in the first session of the ECLA's extraordinary meeting have agreed that it is necessary to find ways to ease the burden of Latin America's foreign debt and make it possible to devote a larger amount of foreign exchange to its development.

The meeting, which opened today in this capital and will conclude Friday, seeks to organize a common position among Latin American representatives to deal with the foreign debt problem, regional integration, and the area's economic development. [passage omitted]

ECLA cites four ways for the region to confront the indebtedness crisis: a reduction in the debt capital, a cut in international interest rates, equal international trade relations or, rather, a greater world demand for Latin American products, and an increase in the productivity of investments.

De la Madrid Speaks

FL222340 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2118 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid said today that Latin America and the Caribbean are experiencing one of the worst crises in their history. Between 1983 and 1985, he said, the net transfer of resources abroad totalled $100 billion while per capita income decreased by 9 percent.

Upon inaugurating the special ECLA conference of the United Nations organization, De la Madrid told delegations from throughout the continent that this crisis has caused significant social regression in terms of the purchasing power of salaries, employment, and social well-being.

The chief executive gave an in-depth analysis of the current Latin American economic and social process contributing to the topic which will be discussed by trade, foreign affairs, and planning ministers at the special ECLA conference called expressly by De la Madrid.

The president said that in 1986 the net transfer of Latin American resources abroad decreased in comparison to previous years. Nevertheless, he said, it continues to be approximately $20 billion, which is an irrational situation for a region that needs net savings from the rest of the world to promote its development.

Among the statements made by De la Madrid, which he noted could contribute to a new agenda for the development of Latin America and the Caribbean, he cited the need to recover economic growth and introduce structural changes to restore a long-lasting stability and elevate the social well-being of the region.

The chief executive's message -- which is considered to be a significant and substantial expression of support in solving the Latin American crisis -- said it is not possible to treat it like an isolated question since it transcends countries and regions and overwhelms the financial scope with markedly political implications.

De la Madrid stressed that the different characteristics of debtor countries and creditor banks make bilateral negotiations necessary and the debt problem should undoubtably play a pertinent role in international economic debates at multilateral forums.

Debt servicing, said the president, should be adjusted to each country's ability to pay, which would allow an adequate growth rate and not the opposite and solutions should be based on the specific needs and conditions of each country and not on the size of the debt.

In another statement, De la Madrid said it is necessary to promote the partial opening [un entorno] of the world economy which would allow the sustained growth of the regional economy. He added that this would require policies that contribute to sustained economic recovery, especially on the part of those industrialized countries with considerable foreign surpluses.

He also said it is necessary to adapt mandates, resources, and conditional formulas of the multilateral international financial organizations to the new conditions of the world economy and the new reality of Latin America and the Caribbean.

In this sense, he said, a more active role is needed in financial organizations, especially in the IMF since during a convertible cash crisis [crisis de liquidez externa], that organization's loans paradoxically were negative.

The Mexican president also referred to financing of the foreign debt, regional development, and Latin American cooperation. He stressed the need to modernize production equipment for their efficient use in new industrial centers and [to flow with] the new trade currents of the world economy.

The president stressed the need to promote economic integration among Latin American and Caribbean countries, since it is the less burdensome method of savings and generates income needed for development based on our productive abilities and natural resources which are currently insufficiently untilized.

Finally, De la Madrid said it would be convenient to expand trade agreements, joint investments, and economic cooperation within the ALADI framework as well as strengthen Latin American institutions. Gradually and pragmatically, we need to establish the methods required for Latin American integration at the rhythm and pace dictated by our circumstances.

Delegates Discuss Debt

PY172312 Paris AFP in Spanish 2049 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] Guatemala, 17 Jan (AFP) -- The economy ministers of 26 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean stated today in Guatemala that the foreign debt cannot be paid without sustained regional development.

Paradoxically, they noted, the debt is one of the greatest obstacles for the region's development, because it is impossible to simultaneously service the debt and promote development.

At the end of a meeting called by the Latin American Economic System (SELA) to analyze the status of the area's basic products, the ministers proposed a plan of action to defend the legitimate interests of the subcontinent.

Latin America and the Caribbean sustained losses amounting to $50 billion in 1986 on account of deteriorated prices for basic products in the international market, which makes the economic crisis all the worse, it was noted at the meeting.

The so-called plan of action, which was proposed today, foresees the increase of basic products trade within the region and the increase of the added value of raw materials.

The plan of action also emphasizes the need for updating technology, better financing, and a better system of distribution and transportation of raw materials. This would allow those countries to be more competitive on the world market.

In order to improve trade in the region, the Latin American economy ministers agreed to expedite the reduction or elimination of tariff and nontariff barriers.

The conference recommended that the SELA study the most viable alternatives for financing the activities of the program.

Concerning the foreign debt problem, the ministers reiterated that it is one of the most serious obstacles to regional development, making it impossible to simultaneously service the debt and achieve the goals of regional development.

Thus, the ministers stated that the foreign debt cannot be paid under current conditions unless there is sustained development of the Latin American countries.

This regional conference was sponsored by SELA under the auspices of Peruvian President Alan Garcia, Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, and Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo.

SELA will be charged with ensuring that the principles and agreements of the program are implemented.

ANDEAN PACT POSTPONES SIGNING OF PROTOCOL

PY202317 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2211 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Excerpts] Lima, 19 Jan (EFE) -- When everything indicated that the Andean Pact would approve within the next few days the reorganization protocol intended to reactivate integration, the protocol encountered a new obstacle when the meeting intended to approve it was postponed indefinitely today.

In fact, a meeting of the commission, the highest-level organization of the Andean Pact, which was to have approved the protocol, had been scheduled for 20, 21, and 22 January.

This protocol was to receive final support in February during a meeting of the Bolivian, Colombia, Ecuadoran, Peruvian, and Venezuelan foreign ministers to be held on the Galapagos Islands.

It is now known whether the recent events in Ecuador influenced the decision to postpone the commission meeting, because there is absolute secrecy on the matter.

The alternate members of the Andean Pact have been meeting in Lima for a week to put final touches on the text of the protocol, seeking the necessary rapprochement among the different positions of the member countries.

It is believed that no such rapprochement has been achieved, and that more consultations must be held with the governments before the next meeting of the commission.

The traditional secrecy within the pact has prevented us from learning the specific points of conflict on which no agreement has been reached so far.

The purposes of the protocol is to reactivate and promote the pact, and pull it out of its current idleness. [passage omitted]

However, the postponement of the meeting scheduled for tomorrow indicates that the approval of the protocol is proving more difficult than expected.

SOVIETS MAY USE WARSHIPS TO ESCORT FISHING BOATS

PY221854 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] The British press says that the United States is pressuring Margaret Thatcher to modify her intransigence over the Malvinas Islands. In turn, the Soviet Union might be considering the use of warships to escort Soviet fishing ships in the Malvinas zone.

The government is preparing the necessary measures for defending Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas. These measures will be legally enforced as of 1 February, when the unilaterally declared fishing protection zone around the islands goes into effect. The Defense Minister Jose Horacio Jaunarena has met with the commanders in chief of the three armed servcices to analyze those measures. It was indicated that these measures will in no way imply actions that may generate belligerent tension or create attrition with foreign forces.

The British press, meanwhile, has reported that the United States is exerting pressure on Margaret Thatcher to modify her intransigent attitude over the Malvinas. The British press thus interprets the visit of Philip Habib, special envoy of President Ronald Reagan, to Great Britain today. Let us recall that as soon as he arrives in London, Philip Habib will meet with the British Defense Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe. [as heard] to ask him to get the British Government to establish contacts with Argentina to solve the conflict, just as the London press has reported. It is however anticipated that the Habib mission will fail, since yesterday Minister Howe affirmed that his government is not inclined to negotiate the sovereignty of the archipelago.

Announcements from Moscow through the official Kremlin spokesman say the Soviet Union is studying the possibility of using warships to escort its merchant ships. considering the danger to which those ships will be exposed in some zones. It was not specified in which zone the Soviet merchant ships will be escorted. According to Western sources, those zones lie around the Malvinas and the Persian Gulf.

The Argentine Government will not relinquish its right to defend the Malvinas Islands. This statement was made by UCR [Radical Civic Union] Senator Ricardo Laperriere, who is now in Madrid. In Laperriere's opinion, the British decision represents disregard for the international community resolution which was recently voted on at the United Nations.

PRESIDENT ALFONSIN TO SWEAR IN SECRETARIES

PY222127 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Jan 87

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The new state secretaries Carlos Bastianes (Culture and Media), Juan Radonjic (Interior), Adolfo Stubrin (Education), Roberto Bigatti (Social Security) and Armando Caro Figueroa (Labour) will be sworn in by he president today.

It was confirmed that Oscar Muino, who was in charge of the Public Information Secretariat, will not move to the media undersecretariat, and that former Culture Secretary Marcos Aguinis has been named presidential advisor on culture and will be officially appointed next week.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TO CONTINUE ON 15 ADMIRALS

PY222117 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Jan 87 p 1, 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Ricardo Gil Lavedra, who is presiding over the Federal Appeals Court in the holiday season, yesterday denied that the termination of legal proceedings against 15 admirals by the Armed Forces Supreme Council meant the acquittal of those naval officers or that they could be considered as already covered by the "full stop" law.

The admirals were accused of human rights violations in the Navy Mechanics School (ESMA) during the last military regime and their presumed acquittal was published in two dailies.

But Gil Lavedra said the court-martial's decision -- issued on December 23, the same date as the passage of the "full stop" law, but not relayed to the federal court until last Monday -- did not have the status of a ruling. It merely obliged the federal court to review the cases of the accused officers and try them if necessary, he explained, probably in March or April.

Human rights groups were quick to condemn the Supreme Council acquittals as an attempt to avoid the trail of task force members, pointing out that the 15 admirals were responsible for rather than guilty of the denounced atrocities.

This factor was actually the reason for the suspension of legal proceedings against the admirals since the Council argued that there was no reason to consider then the "material authors" of the illegal actions under investigation. They had merely passed on the "legitimate" orders of the anti-subversive campaign, the Council concluded.

The human rights groups also said they had given 100 names to the Supreme Council but none of them had been summoned and they could thus benefit from the "full stop."

The groups further emphasized that it had been a mistake to entrust the ESMA cases to the Supreme Council in the first place and the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights (APDH) called for the removal of the Council's members. The Centre for Legal and Social Studies (CELS) said the whole concept of military justice violated the principle of equality before the law.

During the passage of the "full stop" bill late last year, Senate defence committee chairman Antonio Berhongaray (Radical -- La Pampa) had said 25 admirals would be prosecuted in connection with ESMA, including former Naval commanders-in-chief Emilio Massera and Armando Lambruschini who are currently serving prison sentences, but only 15 have been named to date.

None of the suspected task force leaders such as ESMA operations chief Captain Jorge Acosta or 17 other middle-ranking officers have been tried despite Federal Appeals Court orders to that effect.

But Justice Secretary Ideler Tonelli said since the court had established during the junta trials that crimes had been committed at ESMA, it now remained to "individualize the authors." He also explained that the Supreme Council decision did not imply any acquittal, stressing that there was no element of impunity or concealed amnesty in government policies, merely an attempt to speed up the trials.

Tonelli reportedly discussed the court-martial's failure to try task force leaders with President Raul Alfonsin and Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena on Tuesday night.

The Supreme Council's description of the anti-subversive campaign's order as "legitimate" was allegedly one of the chief causes for concern. The government is reportedly so angry with the military judges for their "rebellious" attitude that it might impeach them.

In other cities around the country, the La Plata Federal Appeals Court received 56 cases from the Supreme Council although according to court sources 15 cases did not belong to the Buenos Aires provincial jurisdiction. The court is still waiting for another 20 cases.

Their Cordoba counterpart asked the Council for all cases mentioning the former detention centre La Perla which had been mentioned by the National Commission on the Disappearance of Persons (CONADEP).

Finally, the Tucuman Federal Appeals Court began to receive the cases it had requested yesterday.

RUMORS CONTINUE ON LAVAGNA-BRODERSOHN DISPUTE

PY212251 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Jan 87 p 3

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Sources at the industry and foreign trade secretariat yesterday strongly denied rumours of a dispute between secretariat chief Roberto Lavagna and Treasury Secretary Mario Brodersohn.

It was reported that during the last meeting of the economic team, Lavagna expressed his annoyance over Brodersohn's rejection of his industrial promotion plans. Sources said that Lavagna even submitted his verbal resignation to Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille.

The confrontation between Lavagna and Brodersohn was no secret in economic circles, but the situation seemed to worsen lately with Lavagna quoted as saying that during 1986 Brodersohn "systematically rejected all the industrial promotion plans presented by his secretariat."

Sources explained that the treasury secretariat did not authorize any of the 50 programmes approved by Lavagna. Something similar happened with the 60 plans presented during the last half of 1986.

According to confidential reports leaked to the HERALD over the past months, the situation of Lavagna at the industry and foreign trade secretariat is "unstable." Government sectors, primarily the National Coordinating Board (JCN), have voiced opposition to Lavagna's actions.

CGT EXPLAINS FAILURE TO MEET BARRIONUEVO

PY162118 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 16 Jan 87 p 11

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN) -- The General Confederation of Labour (CGT) failed to turn up yesterday at a meeting to which they were invited by Labour Minister Hugo Barrionuevo, who described them as thoughtless and non-conducive and said the invitation had been issued "on the President's instructions."

CGT Secretary-General Saul Ubaldini said that the invitation "had already been rejected in practice" through the government's announcement of a wage policy for the first quarter of the year.

Ubaldini conditioned the resumption of a dialogue to "a correction to what the government has officially announced" on wage policy, and ratified the January 26 general strike.

"We regret to turn down your invitation to explain our proposal for a social pact, the mere reading of which allows only one interpretation, and which is sufficiently clear to begin responsible negotiations," Ubaldini said in a letter sent to Barrionuevo.

The message was read to the press by Ubaldini at the same time Barrionuevo gave his reply to the unionists at a separate press conference at the labour ministry.

The CGT leadership said in the message that "we maintain our decision to strike on January 26 so that the Argentine people can express that we are needing new solutions."

When journalists suggested that after the government and the CGT's mutual accusations on the responsibility for the break-down of dialogue, public opinion would have to give their verdict, Ubaldini replied that "after January 26 the verdict will be known." [passage omitted]

INTRANSIGENTS' MONSERRAT OPPOSES PERONIST LINK

PY212245 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Jan 87 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Intransigent Party (PI) deputy Miguel Monserrat yesterday came out against an alliance with the Renewal Peronist faction for this year's mid-term elections as well as against any type of two-party system which he claimed was being imposed on Argentina.

He told reporters in Congress the two-party system, which some sectors were trying to set up, was lacking in ideology and was copied from foreign models and was aimed at presenting the electorate with only two alternatives.

He said his party would put a transformation proposal before the electorate and claimed the two main candidates for the Buenos Aires province governorship, Juan Manuel Casella of the Radical Party and Antonio Cafiero of the Renewal Peronists, would have "the same captains of industry behind them."

Monserrat, however, did not discard the possibility of an alliance with another party for the elections but said the debate within the Intransigent Party on such an alliance was just beginning.

BEDREGAL EYES U.S. 'NONFULFILLMENT' OF FUNDS

PY220048 Paris AFP in Spanish 1441 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] La Paz, 21 Jan (AFP) -- Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal today stated here that the Bolivian Government is concerned over the nonfulfillment of the financial disbursements pledged by the United States for the struggle against drug trafficking.

The foreign minister stated that this fact could change the cooperation programs of European countries interested in the campaign planned for the national territory and in the fulfillment of the goals set for the fight against drug processing and trafficking.

The foreign minister added that the U.S. authorities have announced a $66-million assistance for this year, assistance that would be used to repress drug trafficking, replace the crops, and educate the people.

It was recalled that in October 1986, a high-level binational commission drew up a 3-year program to fight drug trafficking, including a $300-million contribution by the United States.

FINANCE MINISTER WANTS FOREIGN DEBT PURCHASED

PY201605 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] The proposal by European countries to buy the Bolivian foreign debt is a good cooperation effort. Finance Minister Cariaga said this when questioned about a British MP's statement on this issue.

[Begin Cariaga recording] As the British MP said, the EEC countries have proposed that some countries buy the Bolivian foreign debt. Without doubt this would help our economic reactivation. They can help lighten the heavy burden of our debt, by reducing it through its purchase by some [word indistinct] countries. This would be a form of cooperation with our reactivation process. [end recording]

Cariaga said that this EEC initiative represents hope for Bolivia and if actually carried out, it will help us to free ourselves from this heavy burden.

[Begin Cariaga recording] Well, this is a new possibility which has been proposed by the EEC countries. It certainly will be welcomed if it happens. It will help us free ourselves from our heavy burden. [end recording]

Changing the subject, the finance minister said that the overall national budget for this year is greater than the 1986 budget. He said that there are no basic changes and that the state income is still limited. He pointed out that the tax reform has started to be implemented.

BRIEFS

POLICE CONFISCATE DRUGS -- Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Department Director Alfonso Martinez has reported that the police have confiscated 45.3 kg of cocaine base in several operations in the Chapare region during which 10 people were arrested. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 4 Jan 87 p 10 PY]

PARIS CLUB RESCHEDULES $4 BILLION OF DEBT

AU212034 Paris AFP in English 2031 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Paris, Jan 21 (AFP) -- Brazil and its bank creditors in the so-called Club of Paris reached a limited accord here Wednesday rescheduling about four billion dollars of the country's foreign debt obligations to 1993, official sources said. The rescheduling covers a back-log of payments to the Club of Paris from 1985, 1986 as well as obligations due in the first half of 1987. In exchange, Brazil pledged to stick to all payment deadlines with its creditors from July 1, 1987, the sources said.

Brazil's concession avoided the usual step, demanded by creditors, that the country sign an agreement of confirmation with the International Monetary Fund.

Brazil's total foreign debt has been estimated at around 98 billion dollars.

FINANCE MINISTRY COMMENTS ON ANTIDUMPING LAW

PY212110 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 20 Jan 87 p 18

[Text] The antidumping law [term given in English], which was published yesterday in the gazette, has been signed by President Jose Sarney. Through the antidumping law, Brazil will be able to defend itself from disloyal commercial practices. It came about as a result of the round of GATT negotiations that were held in Geneva in 1979.

This law, which is to be implemented by the Foreign Relations Ministry, could not be passed by the president any sooner because Congress did not approve it until December.

According to a Finance Ministry source, the approval of this law could "backfire" because through it many Brazilian producers may demand that the government suspend imports that are exempted from custom duties.

BRIEFS

GDP GROWS 7.7 PERCENT -- Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics [IBGE] President Eduardo Guimaraes has reported that the Brazilian GDP grew 7.7 percent in 1986. This figure was calculated from information obtained to October, and projected until December 1986. GDP growth was smaller than that of 1985 because of decreases in agriculture production. Brazilian economic production reached $240 billion in 1986. [Excerpt] [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Jan 87 p 1 PY]

AUTOMATIC SALARY READJUSTMENT -- Brasilia -- The minimum salary has to increase from 804 cruzados to 964.80 cruzados this month in keeping with the salary escalator clause (by which a salary is automatically readjusted each time inflation reaches 20 percent) in compliance with Article 17 of the Cruzado Plan decree No 2,284. [Summary] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Jan 87 p 23 PY]

ACTING SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT RESIGNS

PA221515 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] Bogota -- Acting Supreme Court President Nemesio Camacho Rodriguez has resigned. His resignation follows successive resignations by the justices who survive the M-19 attack on the Justice Palace in 1985. Only six survivors of that massacre remain with the court.

DEFENSE MINISTER CITES ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN RESULTS

PA190420 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1935 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] Bogota, 18 Jan (DPA) -- The Colombian defense minister officially announced today that 324 persons linked with drug trafficking were captured last month and turned over to the military courts.

Following the 17 December murder of the director of the morning daily EL ESPECTADOR, Guillermo Cano Isaza, the campaign against drug trafficking was intensified; since then, a total of 1,862 persons were detained in 1,666 raids on the residences and centers of operation of suspicious individuals.

One of the most important arrests is that of well-known narcotics trafficker Evaristo Porras Ardila, considered one of the 8 main "capos" of the Colombian mafia, who was captured on San Andres Island, in the Caribbean.

During the joint police and army operations in the rural areas, 732 hectares planted with coca were uncovered, and over 80,000 coca plants destroyed.

The raise also uncovered 10 laboratories for processing the alkaloid, 321 kg of pure cocaine, and 71 kg of marijuana ready to be sent to the United States.

During the same period of time, the authorities seized equipment for 43 high-frequency radios, 4 helicopters, 22 small airplanes, 40 automobiles, 698 weapons of various calibers, and 47,000 cartridges.

The most important action took place a few days ago at a farm in the southwestern Cerrito municipality, where cocaine-processing equipment was found and three persons were captured.

In spite of the fact that many persons have been arrested, the main narcotics trafficking chiefs are still at large: former Congressman Pablo Escobar Gaviria, Jorge Ochoa Vasquez, Carlos Ledher Rivas, Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, and Julio Silva Amin.

Other important chiefs, such as Efrain Rodriguez Puente and the Gabriel and Franklin O'Byrne Aicardi brothers, were captured and released 10 days later for "lack of evidence."

The authorities are holding four drug traffickers whose extradition has been requested by the United States: Rodolfo Donado Suarez; Carlos Gomez Zapata; Nohora Cespedes, the wido of Jaramillio; and Ana Rodriguez de Tamayo.

LARA REPUDIATES RESOLUTION ON FEBRES RESIGNATION

PA221937 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 1556 GMT 22 Jan 87

[News Conference with Marco Lara Guzman, secretary general of public information, to foreign reporters at unspecified location in Quito on 22 January -- live]

[Text] [Lara] With the firmness rooted in the free election of the majority, a firmness that is recognized, protected and supported by the Constitution and the law of the land, President Leon Febres Cordero continues and will continue exercising the duties of his office. We will continue administrating the country for the well-being of our democratic stability, and will continue pursuing the goals of development, progress, and freedom that the regime has set for itself.

The resolution issued by the national congress, which was passed by a vote of 38 in favor, 29 against, 2 abstentions, and 2 absent, has a value equal to zero. Gentlemen, representatives of the foreign press, in the Ecuadoan constitutional system, the congressional resolution has basically no value. Ecuador has a presidential regime, not a parliamentary regime -- I am mainly addressing the foreign press -- therefore that resolution has no value. A vote of no confidence -- something that is possible under parliamentary regimes -- does not have any value here because we live under a presidential regime.

Second, the congressional resolution has no value because the Ecuadoran Constitution does not have a single section, does not say a single word [words indistinct] the Congress to demand resignation of the country's president. That resolution does not have any moral value either. Yesterday the president of the national congress said that at least the congressional resolution would have moral value. Advice given by enemies cannot have any moral value. None of us would accept advice from our enemies or opponents, because if we did so, we would not survive.

The congressional resolution was approved by 38 deputies, not even by the 40 deputies who were supposed to approve it first. That resolution is in intself an unsuccessful [fallido] action by the opposition. Throughout the 2 years that President Febres has been in office, the opposition has being carrying out activities against the legitimately formed government. The opposition had sought refuge in various parts of the country. Now it simply tried to issue a resolution that has no value and that can only be described as an absolutely unsuccessful action.

I wish to state a very serious contradiction for the record. Within the so-called Progressive Bloc -- which is in itself the most fertile ground for contradictions, because, gentlemen of the local and foreign press, Ecuador is one of the few places in the world, or perhaps the only place, in which there is a front, a bloc that groups both Communists and capitalists, Social Democrats and Christian Democrats; that bloc is united by the same ideological, doctrinaire structure that does not really have any [words indistinct] -- a new contradition has appeared. A few months ago that front shocked the country by promoting a criminal trial against the government minister and the general secretary of the administration. The progressive front argued that those individuals had obstructed the action of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal when it requested the resignation of the two spokesmen who respresented the executive branch. The front brought up a criminal trial. That trial was shelved by the former president of the Supreme Court of Justice, who is a member of the Democratic Left and who supports the ideas of the Progressive Bloc members. If there is a bit of coherence in all that, if they have not succeeded in eliminating all possible logic, they should now initiate a trial against themselves for having demanded the resignation of the country's president without any legal, constitutional, moral, logical, or historical grounds.

Therefore, in summary, the national government continues and will continue exerting the power that it received in the ballots. This power did not originate in the voting of 38 deputies [2-second break in reception], but a power obtained by the will of over 50 percent of the population. The result of the voting in congress [4-second break in reception] is a result that has no value, effect, or weight in any sphere. Moreover, it not only has no weight, it is also an unsuccessful [fallido] action carried out by those who wanted to achieve results that they could not obtain because the action was against the law. It was result that they could not obtain because their action does not have any effect.

Now we will go forward. The government, which has never slackened its efforts to attain its objectives and to maintain the democratic regime that the executive branch has defended against all the attacks -- attacks which were sometimes camouflaged and sometimes very clear, attacks which were so clear that only opportunists did not see them -- continues and will continue moving forward. You can see that this unsuccessful action of the opposition, those 38 votes and the uproar of the 38 speeches, did not even wither the flowers in the gardens of the legislative palace. The uproar didn't even make it out of the walls of the legislative palace.

[Reporter] Therefore, does the struggle among branches continue?

[Lara] No, the struggle of branches does not continue. The constitutional, democratic regime continues. The struggle might continue when the opposition continues looking for the roads it has been following to achieve its two greatest goals. These goals are: first, to attain power [words indistinct] even if it is in a roundabout way and second, to seek a way to avenge the electoral defeat of 6 May 1984.

[Reporter] According to statements made by the president of the national congress [words indistinct]. What do you think?

[Lara] The government thinks what the Ecuadoran people think, what the national press thinks. It is time for Eduadoran people to look for democratic solutions. If the opposition dislikes the current government, then it should hold back its irrepressible urges until the upcoming elections. We are about to begin an electoral campaign. The opposition should wait until then, but it should not try to cut off the electoral process. It should try to seek democratic solutions and democratic options.

[Reporter] We will repeat our question: According to statements made by the president of the national congress, a political trial against President Febres Cordero has not been ruled out.

[Lara] I told you, the entire country wants to eliminate all those conflictive elements. A call for a political trial -- besides being a mere show -- would also be an adventure rejected by the Ecuadoran people and also ruled out by the nature of the impeachment process. Several sectors of the national congress are used to doing as they please, to raising all the money they want, and doing everything that their judgement considers appropriate. However, a political trial is ruled by very clear constitutional norms, and by procedural norms that cannot be disregarded. The congress must follow those guidelines established in the Constitution. It should be politically prudent, and I think that those sectors should have an attitude of self-preservation so that they do not hit the wall of [word indistinct].

[Reporter] Why would it be an adventure [words indistinct]?

[Lara] I describe it as an adventure because it is not based on constitutional norms. There are no actual or legal grounds. When an action is groundless it can well be described as adventurous.

[Reporter] What is the current situation of the Taura insurrectionists? There is great uncertainty about their status. It was reported that they have been transferred and that they have been arrested. It was even said they have been transferred to Quito wearing civilian clothes. What happened? What is their real situation?

[Lara] The real situation of the Taura insurrectionists is that they received an administrative transfer, and they came to Quito to fulfill those administrative transfers. It is worthwhile that those who are not aware of the essence of the Armed Forces listen to these explanations. The essence of the Armed Forces in any country is discipline. As a result of that discipline the members can be transferred for example from Tulcan to Loja -- for those of you who know Ecuador's geography -- or from Salinas to Puyo at any time and under any circumstances. No soldier can aspire to stay in a single post all his life [words indistinct]. All Ecuadoreans have or have had in our own family members who have been members of the Armed Forces. Therefore, from our own experience, we know that they can be transferred from one place to another. These gentlemen, these insurrectionists, were given an administrative transfer to Quito as a result of a normal, totally legal, and regular decision adopted at the adequate time. Regarding the .. [changes thought] distinguished and dear representatives of the international press, allow me to mention a word used in Ecuador when one speaks of rumors. Rumors are called balls [bolas] in Ecuador but sometimes in Ecuador, as in all countries of the world, the rumors are not necessarily true. Yesterday I heard all kinds of versions of the transfer of these gentlemen. Everything has been denied by reality, logic, and basic legal reasons.

[Reporter] Will the president again call for detente as he did after receiving a strong political blow in the negative majority vote on 1 June [in the referendum on that date]?

[Lara] I had the impression that the negative vote in the referendum was against the possibility that independents could become candidates in Ecuador. Now you say that it was a vote against the government. Look at how the issue is used. Look at how a constitutional matter was used as a central issue by the opposition so that 6 months later, gentlemen of the international press, the world champion of the no vote now appears to be supporting the candidacies of independents to the offices of deputies or president. In the same way, the world champions opposed to presidential reelection have now begun to send up trial balloons because, naturally, it must be very sad to be just harboring political proteges.

[Reporter] On Monday, we heard that the president once again harshly criticized the opposition. Don't you think that a call for national unity and consensus would have helped to cool political tension and overcome this crisis?

[Lara] You are asking a question about the correct tactic within Ecuadoran politics. Tactics are never universal. Tactics are the result of a location and a specific moment. The same political tactics cannot always be applied in the same place because circumstances and times vary. In any country of the world, the national government, the executive branch is the main one interested in maintaining the greatest peace and calm so as to work normally.

Only a deranged government would govern a country by creating problems for itself. The problems in Ecuador are the result of actions coming from outside the executive branch. The executive branch did not provoke the actions in Manta last year. The executive branch did not provoke the actions of the few insurrectionists at Taura on 16 January. The government wants -- and here I am answering your two questions about the famous detente -- to have the greatest tranquillity and harmony in Ecuador. It does not aspire to what the totalitarian governments seek, that everyone think alike and that those who do not think alike should be exiled. Within political pluralism, the government wants a regime of respect. It wants a regime of tranquility because that is its main concern: that there be tranquility and respect in the country.

[Reporter] Both opposition and progovernment congress sectors have said that the government should change its way of governing, stating that even its vocabulary should be changed.

[Lara] A fable is being sold here in Ecuador. It can join the other fairy tales we learned as children. The fable is as follows: In Ecuador there is an ogre government that every day tries to eat the little children of the opposition alive. In Ecuador there is a man who uses strong adjectives in the presence of the virgin ears of the opposition. However, those who were in Ecuador yesterday and the day before yesterday heard the most grave attacks and insults coming from the innocent and angelic mouths of the deputies of the opposition. Therefore, that fable about the bad government and the good opposition is a fable from the philosophical standpoint, and it is an incredible fable even as a children's fairy tale.

[Reporter] So they were not transferred by force?

[Lara] They were not transferred by force. If someone states that they were being unwillingly transferred, we would reply that in the Armed Forces no one rules himself.

[Reporter] If they were not transferred by force, can the press see them? May it have access to them, and where could it have access to them?

[Lara] I want to finish talking about this subject by stating that I am the general spokesman of the government but that the Defense Ministry is the sector authorized to give you further details about this.

[Reporter] But where are they now?

[Lara] At the Quito Air Base.

[Reporter] All of them?

[Lara] You can obtain further details from the Defense Ministry.

[Reporter] Are they free?

[Lara] A military man in a garrison is never imprisoned.

[Reporter] Relatives of the commandos were reporting in congress today that when they go to the Defense Ministry they are told that they [the insurrectionists] are at a military installation and when they go to that military installation, they are told that they are somewhere else. No one knows where they are being held. There is uncertainty among their relatives.

[Lara] I greatly respect the opinion and more than the reasoning, the feelings of the relatives, but in any case I state that those are the feelings of relatives which explains their reasoning. In any case, I think the wise thing would be to combine those feelings from interested parties and the official information from the authorized institution, in this case, the Defense Ministry.

[Reporter] You said trhere has been identification of the commando who threatened the president of the Republic. Is his life guaranteed?

[Lara] Ecuador is not a country of [word indistinct]. Even the [word indistinct] in Africa no longer have the same attitude that they had 40, 50 or 100 years ago when they ate people. Cannibals practically do not exist in Ecuador. As an Ecuadorean you should know that Ecuador is not a country of [word indistinct] or cannibals. Therefore, to ask in Ecuador if the life of someone is guaranteed is a question that is unnecessary because in Ecuador there are legal norms. There is no death penalty, and no circumstances call for such a question. In any case, I will answer your question positively because it might be expressing the concern of several interested people. I state that in Ecuador, all Ecuadoreans have their lives guaranteed. There is no death penalty, and in addition, assassination and crime are condemned. Nevertheless, when individuals of specific sectors die here, there is great silence, but when the lives of people in the opposition are supposedly in danger, then there is weeping and gnashing of teeth even though there might not really be a reason for this.

[Reporter] Can the resolution of the congress asking for the president's resignation be consiered a political blow to the government sector? After this political blow, will the president call for easing of tensions?

[Lara] What the opposition has done is not a political blow. It is an unsuccessful action. It is a totally unsuccessful action because they did not do things according to the Constitution, and they were unable to achieve their objective. Instead, they showed that there were 38 votes for the resolution rather than 40. Therefore, in my view, the matter has been defined. It is an unsuccessful action that had no grounds and that did not achieve results.

AIR FORCE COMMUNIQUE SUPPORTS FEBRES

PA230337 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 0244 GMT 23 Jan 87

['Text' of communique issued by the Ecuadoran Air Force commander on behalf of the Air Force -- read by announcer]

[Text] In my capacity as general commander of the Ecuadcran Air Force, duly authorized by the national defense minister, I hereby address the noble Ecuadoran people to notify the people of some [words indistinct] concerning the regrettable events that took place at the Taura Air Base on Friday, 16 January.

These must be duly clarified in line with the absolute truth to halt the ill-intentioned commentaries that are being made against the honor and prestige of the Air Force by sectors that want to offend the Air Force:

1. The rebellion that is of public knowledge was carried out by the paratroopers stationed at the Taura Air Base, who represent a small group of the Air Force paratroopers personnel, and therefore the commentaries being made should not involve all the Ecuadoran Air Force officers, aerotechnical personnel, and civilian employees who continue working in a responsible and professional manner fulfilling the sacred mission entrusted to them by the fatherland.

2. One should not rule out the possibility that the events were prepared by [words indistinct] in an irresponsible manner by elements foreign to our forces who had (?ulterior) motives and without stopping to consider the national honor [words indistinct] the authorities prepared the actions with a very small group of chieftains of this group of paratroopers. I feel not all of them shared the same amount of responsibility. Very thorough investigations are being carried out following superior military orders to determine who is responsible and who were the material and (?intellectual) authors [words indistinct]. These investigations are being carried out without detriment to their physical integrity or, what is even worse, against their human rights.

3. Concerning the Ecuadoran Air Force paratroopers, it is necessary to clarify that the paratrooper personnel will not be separated or excluded from the Air Force, but -- considering the importance of their functions -- they are being reoriented according to the specific requirements of the institution.

4. I avail myself of this opportunity to express, on behalf of the Ecuadoran Air Force, our deep sentiments of solidarity to the constitutional president of the Republic, the national defense minister, the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the distinguished members of the retinue in the face of the events that have undermined our institutional prestige. We reiterate our commitment to [words indistinct] restore our image and recover the place it deserves.

5. In concluding, on behalf of the institution that I have the honor of commanding, I wish to express the deep sorrow that grieves us over the loss of valuable lives of honorable members of the Armed Forces who offered their lives in fulfilling their duty.

PROSECUTOR ANNOUNCES TRIAL OF KIDNAPPERS

PA221437 Paris AFP in Spanish 2323 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Quito, 21 Jan (AFP) -- The trial of the 74 commandos who participated in the 11-hour kidnapping of President Leon Febres Cordero at a military air force base was announced today in Quito by Chief Prosecutor Guillermo Moran Morbioni.

The attorney general said that he has instructed Guayaquil prosecutor Freddy Rodriguez to begin the corresponding procedure. The respective lawsuit will be filed very soon to establish who were the authors, accomplices, and accessories in the kidnapping of the president, killing of two presidential guards, and injuries to others.

"The president must defend his honor. I have the obligation to comply with the laws," said Moran when the local media reminded him that Febres Cordero had signed an agreement during his kidnapping in which he promised not to press charges against his captors.

He said that 48 hours after the incidents, and since no civilian or military authority had begun the corresponding process, he ordered the Guayaquil prosecutor to begin the proceeding.

"From the beginning, we firmly believed that despite any agreement or pact, the military judges should have started the corresponding indictment," the chief prosecutor said. He added that the trial will begin at the level of civilian judges and will then be transfered to the military judges.

Moran argued that it is not known thus far if only military men participated in the kidnapping or if civilians were also involved, which will be established during the proceedings established by the law for these cases.

He explained that the Military Code of Criminal Procedure contains no provisions or sanctions for the crime of kidnapping the president; therefore the trial will have to begin in the criminal court, where this crime is established, with an 8 to 12-year sentence.

He clarified that he has had personal contact not only with President Febres Cordero but also with the advisers of the Attorney General's Office and with other leading personalities of the country, "because undoubtedly the conscience and reflection must be combined with science in the actions of the legislative, executive, and judicial authorities."

'ALFARO LIVES' ENDORSES KIDNAPPING, VARGAS ROLE

PA222014 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1611 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] Panama City, 22 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Ecuadoran guerrilla group "Alfaro Lives, Dammit" has termed the recent kidnapping of President Leon Febres Cordero by Armed Forces paratroopers "a legitimate act of rebellion." In a communique delivered to ACAN-EFE in Panama City, the rebel group also supports General Frank Vargas Pazzos, charged with coup d'etat attempts, whose release was negotiated in exchange for the release of President Leon Febres Cordero. The guerrilla communique agrees with the National Congress resolution that urged Febres Cordero to resign.

"Alfaro Lives" points out that the "retention" of Febres Cordero was a "legitimate act of rebellion because of his continuous violations of the Constitution." According to the guerrillas, "the conflict will only be resolved with the resignation of Febres Cordero and the Armed Forces High Command which has openly supported the tyrant's arbitrariness."

Vargas Pazzos has "the right" to take over the "reorganization of the Armed Forces and of a new government," the communique states. According to the document issued by the revels, "the tyrant and the oligarchy only heed the people's claims and rights in response to forceful action, especially armed action."

The Ecuadoran rebels "demand" general amnesty for "all those who took part in the struggle for freedom. [quotation marks as received]

Today the Ecuadoran Congress approved a motion presented by the opposition majority, which last Tuesday proposed the dismissal of Febres Cordero.

COLORADO PARTY CALLS FOR U.S. ENVOY'S EXPULSION

PA230038 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 2121 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] Asuncion, 22 Jan (REUTER) -- President Alfredo Stroessner's Colorado Party today publicly demanded that U.S. Ambassador Clyde Taylor leave Paraguay for meddling in the country's domestic affairs. A statement issued by the party says that "Taylor must leave the country. He has flagrantly violated the principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of our country."

The Foreign Ministry also officially rejected a statement released by Taylor on Friday in which he says the U.S. Government urges Paraguay to reopen an independent radio station and a newspaper that has been banned.

Interior Minister Sabino Montanaro said Taylor would be doing the right thing if he left Paraguay before the government declares him persona non grata. Diplomatic sources have informed REUTER that it would be very difficult for Taylor to ignore the pressure from the govenment and that he probably will leave the country. The U.S. Embassy has made no comments regarding this.

In 1984, the government banned the ABC COLOR newspaper. Last week, Radio Nanduti, the most important independent radio station in the country, stopped transmitting because the interference was making it impossible for them to be heard.

Opposition politicians, who have accused the government of interfering in Radio Nanduti's transmissions, have expressed their support for Taylor. They said that Taylor has every right to defend human rights and the freedom of the press.

Stroessner's government, in power in Paraguay for more than 30 years, denied the charges, but on many occasions it has described Radio Nanduti as subversive.

ORGANIZATION SEEKS GUARANTEES FOR RADIO STATION

PY211410 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 21 Jan 87 p 14

[Text] In a communique, the Coordinating Board of Independent Movements [Coordinadora de Movimientos Independientes] asks that "the repression against Radio Nanduti be stopped and that guarantees be given for the radio station to operate." In addition, the communique describes the situation which the radio has been experiencing for several months.

The communique adds: "The radio station has been attacked by parapolice gangs. It has experienced continuous jammings, a campaign of verbal attacks by the official repression media, the imprisonment and trial of its reporters. These actions led to the forced closure of the radio station on 14 January 1987."

The communique also states that "this is a new attack against the people's press freedom, seeking to deprive them of the possibility of learning the real situation prevailing and, thus, stop the growing level of popular awareness. As a result, employees and their families are faced with a distressing situation emerging from the annihilation of their jobs by the regime."

GARCIA, DELEGATION DEPART FOR 6-DAY INDIA TRIP

PY212005 Paris AFP in Spanish 1839 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Lima, 21 Jan (AFP) -- Peruvian President Alan Garcia today left for New Delhi. Garcia is a special guest of the Indian Government and will attend celebrations marking India's independence.

The presidential airplane left at 1315 local time from the 8th Group Military Base which is adjacent to the Jorge Chavez International Airport in Lima.

Garcia, who will be in India for 6 days, heads a delegation of government officials.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORTS 1986 ACTIVITIES

PY220227 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 11 Jan 87 p A 9

[Text] According to Rene Flores Agreda, director of the Interior Ministry Drug Control Executive Office, last year the government destroyed 2,189 kg of drugs. He made this statement while lecturing on the drug problems in Peru.

Flores Agreda stated that of the almost 160,000 hectares of coca leaves in the country, only 18,000 were used for traditional consumption and other legal usages.

The remaining 142,000 hectares are used by the drug traffickers to prepare cocaine paste and cocaine hydrochloride that are sold abroad at very high prices, he stated.

He added that there is no precise information on the amount of money that moves around cocaine, but we have an idea judging by the installations, landing strips, laboratories, and airplanes seized or destroyed during the "Condor" operations.

He added that "one third of prison inmates are drug traffickers."

He said the cost of 3 kg of cocaine paste costs 30,000 intis at the laboratory. Three kg of cocaine paste makes 1 kg of cocaine hydrochloride which in the United States costs 900,000 intis.

Flores Agreda stated: "The drug business on the U.S. market in 1984 was estimated at $100 billion."

He also revealed that 100,000 people are addicted to drugs. Of that amount, between 20 to 30 percent are students.

He also said the age of the addicted population ranges between 14 and 24.

The lecture was given in the auditorium of the Continental Bank, and it was organised by the Executive Board for Control of Drugs and the Information and Education Center for the Prevention of Drug Abuse.

U.S. ECONOMIST'S APPOINTMENT VIOLATES TREATY

PA212124 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Jan 87 p 5

["Vox Populi" column by Luis Restrepo: "The Case of the Economist"]

[Text] The Republic of Panama is going to appeal to the U.S. State Department to redress what it considers a violation of the Panama Canal Torrijos-Carter Treaty. The violation is related to the increasing participation of Panamanians in key positions of the canal administration.

The hiring of a "Zonian" imported from the United States to fill the position of economist in the Planning Department of the Panama Canal Commission was vigorously opposed by the Panamanian representatives at the last meeting of the commission's Board of Directors in Panama City on 15 and 16 January.

This writer has heard that William Gianelli, chairman of the Board of Directors, while assuming his characteristic arrogant and colonialist posture, rejected Panamanian protests and -- with the complicity of Commission Administrator Dennis McAuliffe and other high ranking "Zonian" executives -- maintained the peculiar contention that the "economist position is sensitive for reasons of U.S. national security."

The writer has received reports that Panamanians acted with positive energy at the last meeting, defending Panamanian rights. Speaking loudly and clearly, they scored and rejected one by one all the tricks used by the "Gianelli Band" to try and justify the agressions against Panama and its people.

In accordance with reports I receive almost daily, the four Panamanian members of the Board of Directors and the Panama Treaty Affairs Directorate (DEPAT) members accused the U.S. group of maliciously violating the treaty and acting with colonialist arrogance in their handling of the problems on the agenda.

In this column, I have been calling on the members of the "National Association of Economists" to issue a statement against the decision of the U.S. majority on the Board of Directors of the Canal Commission that is violating the concept of "increasing participation" by Panamanians in executive positions of the canal administration. However, so far the "National Association of Economists" has remained silent about the problem affecting qualified Panamanian economists, whose rights have been made a mockery of by the "Gianelli Band" and their associates, the "Zonians". They have been causing conflicts with Panamanians in line with their macabre plans to prevent the handover of the Panama Canal on the date stipulated by the treaty, which is reaching its 10th anniversary.

AGREEMENT RENEWS TRADE AT COSTA RICAN BORDER

PA221801 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 22 Jan 87 p 4

[Article by Justa Guerrero de Henriquez: "Panama and Costa Rica Reestablish Commerce in Border Region"]

[Text] The Governments of Panama and Costa Rica yesterday signed an agreement concerning commercial activities in their mutual border area. The agreement reestablishes and normalizes free movement of both individuals and vehicles in that area.

The document was signed by Jose Bernardo Cardenas, Panamanian Commerce and Industries minister, and Luis Diego Escalante, minister of economy of the Republic of Costa Rica, and provides for the appointment of a commission made up of high-level qualified personnel from both countries to draw up plans and programs for the development of the border sector. These plans would include all aspects of security, commerce, health, and education. The commission will have to submit a report within a maximum term of 60 days.

The agreement also states that any commercial activity which goes beyond the bounds of the Torrijos-Oduber Treaty of 14 March 1975 will be ruled by legal provisions which allow citizens to bring in merchandise in the amount of $100 or its equivalent tax-free, provided they have remained 72 hours in the other country's territory.

It is pointed out, moreover, that Panamanian and Costa Rican customs authorities must hold an immediate meeting to determine the necessary regulations and controls to be applied in the reestablishment of activities in that frontier area.

BRIEFS

UNEMPLOYMENT DECREASES -- Labor Minister Jorge Federico Lee has reported that the unemployment rate dropped from 11.8 percent to 10.2 percent of the economically active population in 1986. This means that there were 84,600 unemployed in 1985 and 73,600 in 1986, a net reduction of 11,000. [Summary] [Panama City EL MATUTINO in Spanish 21 Jan 87 pp 1, 4, 14 PA]

EL SALVADOR

COUNTRY 'PRACTICALLY PARALYZED' BY STRIKE

PA221733 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1443 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- El Salvador is practically paralyzed today as a result of the strike being staged by the productive sector nationwide to protest the new taxes that have been in effect since the beginning of the month. Newspapers have not circulated in the capital, and the television newscasts were not aired. Even though bus owners said that they did not support the strike called by the productive sector, the urban bus service began to operate 2 hours late and with very few units.

The main streets of the Salvadoran capital were semideserted, with little vehicular traffic and groups of people walking to their jobs, most of there were mainly government workers or people who are self-employed. The taxi cooperatives, travel agencies, pharmacies, and gasoline stations are also participating in the private enterprise strike.

A total of 200 radio stations are off the air throughout the country in support of the strike. The state-owned Radio El Salvador, Cadena Cuscatlan of the Armed Forces, and Radio Cadena Libertad, directed by Ines Guadalupe Duarte, President Jose Napoleon Duarte's daughter, are on the air. Also on the air is Radio Cadena Central which in previous years was managed by a brother-in-law of the Salvadoran president.

The security forces have intensified their patrols in the streets of the capital to prevent any outbreak of violence. Meanwhile, the Army has increased vigilance on the highways in the interior of the country to counteract the guerrilla attacks against transportation.

NICARAGUA

LA PRENSA WORKERS REQUEST NEW POLICY FOR PAPER

PA220406 Managua International Service in Spanish 2350 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Employees of the newspaper LA PRENSA, publication of which has been suspended in Nicaragua, have asked the owners to change the newspaper's political guidelines. The owners have now banned the union's meetings at the newspaper's installations. The workers used to meet every Wednesday to learn about the progress achieved in the negotiations with the Nicaraguan Government concerning a possible reopening of the newspaper. The workers have asked for a change in LA PRENSA's political position, bu the main shareholders -- who are members of the capitalist sector -- have refused. After presenting hard evidence, the government accused the newspaper last year of violating the emergency law, and ruled that the paper had to close down for an indefinite amount of time. LA PRENSA had prepared a campaign to publicize and justify the U.S. Congress' approval of $100 million for the Somozist contras.

UNO COMMUNIQUE TO MEMBERS OF C.A. PEACE MISSION

PA220250 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 20 Jan 87 p 22

[Communique issued by Nicaraguan Opposition Unity, UNO, to foreign ministers of Contadora and Support Groups and UN and OAS secretaries general; date and place not given]

[Text] Gentlemen: Your mission of peace, which has the lofty purpose of seeking a resolution of Nicaragua's civil war that seriously affects stability in Central America and threatens peace on the continent, elicits hope and expectation in us.

Several times, and before various political organizations, the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity, UNO, has made specific proposals for a peaceful resolution of the Central American crisis. These proposals would have saved lives and spared Nicaraguans and our brothers of the isthmus from further suffering. This pacifist vocation has constantly determined our actions and those of our combatants, who have been forced to wage a defensive war because we have been brutally denied the possibility of laying the foundations for a just and democratic society in which human rights are respected.

It is worthwhile mentioning to you that, even before the UNO -- which includes the most important sectors of the Nicaraguan opposition -- was formed, its organizations again and again appealed for peace and dialogue and proposed a mechanism for a cease-fire, all of which would have created a proper climate for negotiations. The Managua government either ignored or rejected all our proposals.

We want to mention only some of the proposals and actions presented: the peace proposal presented by ARDE on 16 December 1982 and 24 January 1983; the one presented by the FDN on 13 January 1983; those presented to the Contadora member countries on 29 June 1983; the one presented to the Contadora Group presidents on 16 July 1983; the letter addressed to the OAS secretary general on 16 November 1983; the support of various organizations, including the insurgent forces; the national dialogue proposed by Nicaraguan political parties, trade unions, and democratic institutions on 24 December 1983; the formal proposal for a cease-fire presented on 21 February 1984 and a dialogue to adopt a plan based on the resolutions of the 17th consultative meeting of OAS foreign ministers; the support for dialogue proposed by the Nicaraguan episcopate in its pastoral letter of 22 April 1984; and, finally, UNIR's [expansion unknown] proposal made on 7 January 1985.

These proposals and actions for peace coincided in that the resolution of the problem consisted fundamentally of respect for human rights, the democratization of Nicaragua, and, internationally, the application of the resolution of the 17th OAS consultative meeting.

On 1 March 1985, we who now form the UNO publicly presented a civic project in a "document of the resistance about the national dialogue." On 12 June 1985 we formally set up our organization centered on this project, which was based on national reconciliation, democratization, and the reconstuction of our country.

Your Excellencies, special mention should be made of the efforts and requests made during the Contadora negotiating process.

We cannot but regret that being, as we are, a part of the civil war destroying Nicaragua, an answer was not even given to the considerations we, an important sector of the Nicaraguan population, expressed. This contradicts objectives advocated by Contadora such as the promotion of a dialogue and reconciliation in those societies where there have been schisms and divisions. We request, among other things, your lofty consideration of our letter and proposals to President Raul Alfonsin regarding the meeting in Cartagena on 26 August 1985 and the communique issued by the UNO directorate on 9 January 1986 to the ministers of the Contadora Group and the Lima Group, which were meeting in Venezuela.

In keeping with your support of reconciliation and dialogue, we have supported the peaceful initiatives proposed by Nicaragua's internal opposition, among them the initiative issued on 30 January 1986 by six political parties demanding a national dialogue with the FSLN to achieve democracy and attain peace.

Although the direct victims of the conflict are the Nicaraguans, its negative effects seriously affect our Central American brothers. We have expressed our Central American solidarity asserting that the resolution of the crisis should emerge from the Central American states. Along with the Central American countries, we support the position stated by Contadora and other forums. On 19 May 1986, on the occasion of the presidential meeting in Esquipulas, we issued a proposal of a national dialogue and cease-fire to immediately initiate the negotiations, acknowledging the current reality that any negotiated arrangement cannot be carried out or yield positive results without the participation of the Nicaraguan resistance. Therfore, actions such as yours, which seek the peace and democratization of Central America, are neither strange nor new to the UNO. We welcome these actions and they deserve our support. Nevertheless, the absence of positive results from other initiatives and the passing of time that claims human lives and increases the destruction and suffering of the Nicaraguan people force us to be demanding when the issues at hand are peace and democracy. Because of this we must reiterate that the cause and root of the conflict is our people's lack of self-determination, the lack of respect for their rights, and the Nicaraguans' rejection of the Marxist-Leninist plan promoted by the FSLN.

Your Excellencies, if your mission is also inspired by humanitarian considerations, and in the case of the states that are members of the OAS by the resolution adopted by the 17th consultative meeting, our hope for your success will be strengthened. This issue is very important for the Nicaraguans and Central Americans. Consequently, we feel that our position should be made known to the Central American population. That is why we decided to publish this communique.

Thanking you in advance for your kind response, we take advantage of the opportunity to reiterate our highest and most distinguished regard.

12 January 1987

Adolfo Calero, Arturo J. Cruz, Alfonso Robelo

CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS

FL221944 Havana Television Cubana Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] Antonin Kapek, member of the Presidium of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and leading secretary of the party committee in Prague, arrived in our country this morning. The Czechoslovak political leader was met at the airport by Jorge Lezcano, member of the [Communist Party of Cuba -- PCC] Central Committee and first secretary of the party's [PCC] Provincial Committee in Havana.

The 13-member delegation is also headed by Prague's Lord Mayor Frantisek Stafa. The CSSR delegation will hold an important exchange of views on the work of the parties in the two countries and will visit places of historic, political, and social interest.

COSTA RICAN DEPUTIES VISIT ICAP, RETURN HOME

FL191614 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Announcer-read report over video of people embracing, getting into plane, sitting in lounge, and of man speaking]

[Text] [Announcer] The delegation of the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly visiting Cuba held a friendly meeting before returning home at the Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples [ICAP] headquarters, attended by Deputy Rene Rodriguez, ICAP president.

Humberto Vargas, coordinator of the Costa Rican delegation, said at the meeting that Cuba and Costa Rica are brother countries that can live in peace, harmony, and cooperation.

The 11 Costa Rican parliamentarians, traveling with some of their relatives, went home after a 1-week visit to Cuba. The deputies, who toured several development projects in the capital, belong to various political parties both in government and in the opposition. Some of them gave their views about the Central American situation.

[Unidentified speaker] We have always felt that Central American problems should be solved through political means, through negotiation, that military adventures should be avoided, and that to ignite a war in Central America today would be an act of evident historical irresponsibility, whose principal victim would be the workers and peasants of our countries.

[Announcer] The delegation members agreed that their talks with Cuban officials and deputies have contributed to the rapprochement between the two countries and to increased understanding and dialogue on common issues.

CASTRO SPEAKS AT INTERIOR MINISTRY MEETING

FL211447 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1400 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Presided over by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and with the participation of Army General Raul Castro, an Interior Ministry working meeting took place yesterday. The meeting analyzed this institution's main tasks for this year.

Special attention was paid to the improvement of the PRN's [National Revolutionary Police] work in the struggle against crime. The need to continue increasing police affectiveness and the severity of sanctions were assessed. Other subjects discussed were the high incidence of traffic accidents, improvement of the penitentiary system, as well as those topics related to the Interior Ministry's oganization, finances, and operations.

The closing remarks were made by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

PEOPLE REPORTEDLY 'UNDERSTAND' ECONOMIC MEASURES

PA220034 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jan 87

["Commentary" read by Nestor Nunez]

[Text] When the government of capitalist countries announce economic restrictions or austerity measures, popular demonstrations are immediately staged. The have-nots know that such measures will require even greater sacrifices by the large masses, because the obligarchs will continue accumulating wealth untouched.

In Cuba, when Fidel Castro announced in late 1986 a package of savings measures aimed at facing the difficult economic situation caused by numerous adverse foreign factors, there were no protest demonstrations, strikes, or uprisings. Quite the contrary, most people understood the need to adopt measures to increase efficiency, prevent waste, and eliminate excessive consumption.

The decisions of the revolutionary power, which at no time imply a renunciation of free education and health care, cutbacks in social programs, or elimination of development plans, are not presented to the people in the form of abusive impositions, but are publicly explained and analyzed at all levels in search of the understanding and opinions of all citizens.

Most Cuban citizens understand that we must face adverse situations because of lower sugar prices. The drop in the price of petroleum -- large amounts of which we reexported -- and the brutal conditions of capitalist markets prevent underdeveloped countries from enjoying certain luxuries. They also understand that our efforts are still insufficient, that we must reach greater efficiency levels with the help of all and the improved guidance of the communists.

The measures are aimed first at eliminating domestic problems that are hindering our economic efforts; their effect in the population is minimal. For example, the measures call for reasonable fuel savings in the state sector, greater controls and standards in production and services centers, and efforts to maintain electricity rates and urban transportation fare increases to a minimum, among other things. Education and health services are not affected at all; as stated, they are offered free to all citizens. The quantity and price of basic food rations received by each Cuban through rationing are not affected either. Most of the real value of such rations is subsidized by the state. There is continuity in the family doctor plan that places specialists in neighborhoods; each one assists 120 population nuclei [as heard]. Programs involving housing construction, children, schools, and new industrial installations are not subject to restrictions as a result of such measures either. A conscientious analysis of their application leads the people to react positively to a program that demands greater effort and social responsibility.

NATIONAL PLANNING FRONT CONCLUDES MEETINGS

FL190056 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] The nationwide meeting of the planning front has concluded its work after 2 days of sessions in Havana's Palace of Conventions. The meeting brought together specialists from planning organizations and other similar areas from throughout the country and it marked the end of a national assembly process held on this topic.

The problems existing in the planning front and investment process, the measures needed to improve work, and the possibilities that arise from this activity, including increased use of computers, were topics discussed by the delegates.

Pedro Ross, member of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee, closed the meeting and said the country's production of construction materials has required the application of technology, and, nevertheless, this has not been applied.

Ross said there must be more communication between organizations in regard to technical cooperation. He then stressed that we should be capable of seeing our difficulties and the source of our errors so that the necessary measures can be taken and the rectification process can be carried out. In this regard he said it should not be a rectification of words and paper, but instead, it should be a complete rectification.

The nationwide planning front meeting held 2 days of debates on 5 central topics in an equal number of commissions.

CARIBEX SAYS $125 MILLION IN SEA PRODUCTS SOLD

FL201452 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] In 1986, Cuba exported over $125 million in sea products. Caribex, the Caribbean Export Enterprise of the Ministry of the Fishing Industry, fulfilled 100 percent of its plan. In this way, the Ministry of the Fishing Industry fulfilled its 1986 export commitments as a result of the sale of lobster, shrimp, and other products which include tortoise shells, sponges, shark fins, and frog legs.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ANNUAL REVIEW NOTES 1986 ECONOMIC DECLINE

FL210110 Bridgetown CANA in English 2138 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Jan 20, CANA -- THe Trinidad and Tobago economy declined last year by 8.1 per cent, according to a government 1986 economic review laid in parliament today. The review said gross domestic product (GDP) -- the total value of local goods and services -- fell to 17.3 billion dollars (one TT dollar; 27.7 cents U.S.) from 18.9 billion in 1985. It was the third consecutive annual decline.

The contribution of the dominant recession-hit petroleum sector was 15.6 per cent, an increase from 10.2 per cent in 1983, the review said. The contributions of manufacturing and hotels and guest houses also increased. Construction and quarrying, distribution and restaurants recorded significant declines from 13.7 and 11.4 per cent respectively in 1983 to 8.6 per cent and 7.6 per cent last year.

Retail prices increased by seven per cent between 1985 and last year in comparison with an eight per cent increase over the period one year before. The review said Trinidad and Tobago's improving trade and balance of payments position had also been reversed last year.

Reports Debt Figures

FL211638 Bridgetown CANA in English 1435 GMT 21 Jan 87

[All monetary units as received]

[Text] Port-of Spain, Trinidad, Jan 21, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobagos' total debt service payments jumped by nearly 73 per cent last year, due mostly to the sharp rise in the external debt caused by the 33.3 per cent currency devaluation of December 1985, according to government's 1986 fiscal review. Total debt service costs amounted to TT957.7 million dollars (one TT dollar; 27.7 U.S. cents) In comparison with TT555.1 million dollars in 1985.

Of this total; external debt service had amounted to 782.6 million dollars (1985; 404.8 million dollars) while the internal debt service was 175.1 million dollars last year (1985; 150.3 million dollars). Government's overall debt at the end of the year, however, showed a marginal decline to 3.605 million dollars in 1986 from a 3.640 billion dollar figure, according to the revised estimates for 1986.

While the country's internal debt went up from 1.3 billion to 1.5 billion dollas from 1985 to 1986, the external debt declined from 2.3 billion to two billion dollars last year. The debt figures do not include liabilities on debts guaranteed by government or overdraft facilities extended by central bank to central government.

Finance Ministry figures, laid out in a 1986 economic review made public in advance of next Friday's 1987 budget presentation, show that government registered a 2.8 billion dollar deficit in 1986. While 49 per cent of the deficit remained unfinanced, 1.5 billion dollars was paid off through drawdowns from cash balances and overdraft facilities.

PARTIES PROTEST EXPULSION OF NETHERLANDS ENVOY

PM221405 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 13 Jan 87 p 3

[ANP report: "Surinamese Politicians Disagree With Decision on Departure of Ambassador"]

[Text] The Hague/Paramaribo, 13 Jan -- The political parties in Suriname do not agree with the decision to ask the Netherlands to recall its ambassador from Paramaribo, Jaggernath Lachmon, leader of the Hindustani VHP [Progressive Reformed Party], said yesterday.

The parties are in favor of maintaining relations between the Netherlands and Suriname at ambassadorial level.

Surinamese Foreign Minister Henk Herrenberg said in a speech Sunday evening that the government had decided "unanimously" and "with the full agreement of the Supreme Council" in asking the Netherlands Government to recall Ambassador van Houten. According to Herrenberg, Van Houten has been guilty of "illegal interference in Surinamese domestic affairs."

Yesterday Lachmon told ANP that the three political parties -- the VHP, the NPS [Suriname National Party], and the KTPI [Indonesian Peasants' Party] -- have asked Army leader Bouterse for an emergency meeting of the Supreme Council to make "a critical assessment of what Herrenberg said in his speech." Lachmon did not want to go into greater detail about the objections to what the foreign minister said, but confirmed that the political parties want to maintain relations between Paramaribo and The Hague at ambassadorial level.

As chairman of the Supreme Council, Bouterse has promised the political parties that the emergency meeting will be held. It is not yet known when the partners in the Supreme Council, the highest government organ in Suriname, will meet. The Supreme Council comprises representatives of the military authorities, political parties, the trade union movement, and industry and commerce.

A spokesman for the Surinamese Embassy in The Hague said yesterday that the Netherlands ambassador in Paramaribo was not expected to be replaced in the short term. According to the spokesman, the "basis for the renewal of relations with the Netherlands" will be created when it is clear what the new democratic structures in Suriname will look like. These democratic structures will be laid down in the constitution, which must be ready by April. A referendum on the new constitution still has to be held. The spokesman does not expect a new Netherlands ambassador in the Surinamese capital before the new structures are decided.

The spokesman did, however, voice the assumption that the lowering of the level of ties would be temporary. "I cannot imagine that relations will remain at this level forever. The interests of both sides are too great for that."